



**United States Border Patrol
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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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BORDER PATROL INVESTIGATES UNIDENTIFIED UNIFORMED PERSONNEL LURKING IN THE BORDER AREA

San Diego, CA : At approximately 11:40 a.m. east of Otay Mesa in Copper Canyon, Border Patrol Agents observed ten individuals wearing unidentified uniforms, carrying what appeared to be long rifles in the immediate border area. Without knowing who these individuals were or what their purpose was for being in the area, agents maintained their positions of cover to ensure officer safety and further observation. During their surveillance, agents heard shots fired from what appeared to be the direction of Mexico, however, agents were unable to identify the trajectory of the shots. Holding their positions, agents radioed for more resources to ensure their safe extraction from the area. During this time, the ten individuals began walking southbound when they observed the Border Patrol Agents' positions of cover. These individuals then proceeded north into the United States toward the agents. After a brief verbal exchange, where agents identified themselves three times, the individuals proceeded south into Mexico. A Border Patrol helicopter was then able to safely extract the agents from the area.

The United States Border Patrol takes an incident of this nature seriously. The safety of agents is always our first concern especially when working in remote areas of San Diego County. Further investigation of this incident will be conducted including contacting the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Mexican Consul, and other Mexican law enforcement officials.